

THE TRUE NORTHERNER.

Published Every Wednesday.

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REPUBLICAN TICKET.

For President—
WILLIAM MCKINLEY of Ohio.
For Vice President—
GARRETT A. HOBART of New Jersey.

Republican State Convention.

To the republican electors of the state of Michigan.

The state convention of the Republicans of Michigan is hereby called to meet at Litchfield Hall, in the city of Grand Rapids, on Wednesday, the 5th day of August, 1896, at 10 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of nominating candidates for state offices, and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the convention.

The delegates from the several counties in each congressional district are requested to meet in district caucus at 10 o'clock a. m., on the day of the state convention, and select candidates as follows: to be presented to the state convention for confirmation: One vice-president, one assistant secretary, one member each of the committee on "credentials," "permanent organization and order of business," and "resolutions," and to transact such other business as they may deem necessary. Under the resolutions of 1895, no delegate will be entitled to a seat in the convention who does not reside in the county he proposes to represent.

In accordance with the resolutions of 1896, every county will be entitled to one delegate for each five hundred of the total vote cast for Governor at the last election (November, 1894), and one additional delegate for every fraction amounting to three hundred, and each organized county will be entitled to at least two delegates. In compliance with the resolutions adopted in Detroit, June 23, 1896, the secretary of each county convention is urged to forward to the secretary of the state central committee, Detroit, by the earliest mail after the delegates to the state convention have been chosen, a certified list of such delegates as are entitled to seats in the state convention from their respective counties.

REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.
Van Buren county will be entitled to twelve delegates.

Republican Congressional Convention.

To the Republican Electors of the Fourth Congressional District:
The district convention of the Republicans of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan is hereby called to meet at the Opera House in the City of Three Rivers, on Wednesday, the 12th day of August, 1896, at 11 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of nominating a candidate for member of congress and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the convention.

The several counties of the district will be entitled to representation as follows:
Allegan.....12
Barry.....11
Berrien.....10
F. R. GILSON, Chairman.
M. C. OWLAND, Secretary.
FRANKLIN WELLS, Committee.
M. S. KEELER, Do.
J. O. BECKFORD, Do.
W. H. GOODMAN, Do.

Republican County Convention.

A republican county convention for the county of Van Buren will be held at the village of South Haven on Thursday, the 30th day of July, A. D. 1896, at ten o'clock a. m., for the purpose of selecting twelve delegates to attend the republican state convention to be held at the city of Grand Rapids on the 5th day of August, A. D. 1896, and for the purpose of selecting twelve delegates to attend the republican congressional convention to be held at the city of Three Rivers on the 12th day of August, 1896, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before said convention.

The several townships will be entitled to representation in said convention as follows:
Almena.....5
Antwerp.....12
Arlington.....9
Bangor.....12
Bloomington.....11
Columbia.....8
Covers.....8
Decatur.....10
Geneva.....16
Hamilton.....5
Hartford.....12
Keeler.....5
Lawrence.....12
Paw Paw.....15
Pine Grove.....10
Porter.....6
South Haven.....14
Waverly.....6
THOS. R. SMITH, Chairman.
J. E. CHANDLER, Secretary.

Republican Caucuses.

A caucus of the republicans of Almena township, for the purpose of selecting five delegates to attend the county convention at South Haven on July 30th, 1896, is hereby called to meet at the Town Hall, Almena Center, on Saturday, July 25th, 1896, at 1 o'clock p. m.

By order of TOWNSHIP COM.

Our Friends, the Enemy.

The democratic national convention has completed its work. The candidates are nominated, the issues made, and the campaign is fairly on. It behooves all voters to look the issues fairly and squarely in the face, and then to vote according to their honest convictions on the most important issues, without regard to partisan prejudice. The NORTHERNER proposes, from now on until election day, to honestly discuss the issues of the campaign, and to keep its readers so well informed that their ballots will be intelligently cast in November next. With this end in view, a review of the democratic platform is in order.

In years past, the democratic party has made its fight on the tariff issue. This year that issue is subordinated to a new one—the matter of the free coinage of silver, the tariff being relegated to a place of minor prominence. Indeed, the money question is said in express terms to be paramount to all others in importance, when viewed through democratic vision. The platform declares unequivocally in favor of the free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1. This is a square turn-about from the position of the democracy in 1892, when the platform declared that the silver dollar must be equal to the gold in intrinsic value. But be that as it may, of course the party can take such position as the majority may see fit to do at the present time, and the republican party welcomes the issue in exactly the shape it is presented in the two platforms. While some republicans would surely have preferred a less radical money plank, the choice must be made this year between the platforms as they are, and it will not take the people long to decide when they come to a careful consideration of the merits of the case. We have repeatedly said in these columns, and we believe the sentiment found

a responsive echo in the belief of the people of this county, that we did not think that free and unlimited coinage at a ratio of 16 to 1 could be safely inaugurated by the United States, independently of other nations; we still hold to that belief. The free coinage would surely mean a mono-metallism of silver, in the place of a mono-metallism of gold as at present. The change would be neither salutary nor honest. As well might the government decree to make the dollar consist of one-half as many grains of gold as at the present time. The proposition is but a revival of the old fiatism of the green-back party, which was exploded years ago, except that the green-backer wanted 100 per cent of fiat, while his modern imitator desires a fiat of but 50 per cent. While many Americans would like a genuine system of bi-metallism, few indeed there are who would welcome a mono-metallism of silver. They infinitely prefer the existing condition. Again, we have repeatedly pointed out the desirability of an international agreement, as the ideal mode of accomplishing the attainment of a bi-metallic standard. To this the republican party is pledged. No one doubts but that the republican party, backed by the wealth and power of the United States of America, will be able to bring about this desirable consummation. International agreement is a wiser and safer solution of the currency question than is the dangerous experiment of free coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1.

The democracy is divided against itself. While its national administration has issued the only bonds issued since the war except for refunding purposes, its national convention declares against such issues. While such declaration is surely in accord with the temper of the American people, it will not enable the democracy to escape the responsibility for such bonds. Indeed, they are the creature of democracy, and but for the ascendancy of the democratic party they would not have been issued.

No country at any time in the history of the world, has had a better or safer, a more convenient or popular type of money than the national bank bills. These the democracy denounces and demands that all paper money be issued direct by the government. Here again is a strange contrast with the democratic principles of four short years ago, when that party found no fault with the national bank bills, and even went further and demanded the repeal of the 10 per cent tax on the issues of state banks, that these also might issue money. The national banking system, under republican rule, was fast tending towards the end of its existence, not because of any objection to the system, but because the government debt was being so rapidly paid that in a few short years there would have been no interest bearing bonds on which to base the circulation, and the republican party would never have consented to the issue of new bonds merely for the purpose of perpetuating the national banking system. But now, after three years of democratic rule, the new bonds, amounting to \$262,000,000, render the time when the interest bearing debt will be too small for banking purposes, far in the future.

One peculiar characteristic of the democratic party is that it never learns anything from experience. No policy of any party in recent years has been fraught with such disastrous results to the country as the "tariff for revenue only" policy of the democracy. And yet the party comes up smiling this year and reaffirms its belief in its pet tariff policy, the practical workings of which are exemplified in the present Wilson-Gorman law. The declaration of the democrats in this particular alone is sufficient to condemn it to defeat, no matter what else it may declare for in its national platform. No republican believer in free silver would be willing to endure another term of free trade, even for all the benefits that he believes free silver would bring to him.

As to foreign policy, the convention is silent, probably on the theory that the less said concerning the foreign policy of the democracy the better. Indeed, the platform is singularly silent on the record of the party, except where sly slaps are administered to Grover Cleveland, the only man who has been able to

lead the party to victory in 40 years. All in all, the democratic platform contains nothing that will win to the party a single vote, except its silver declaration. This will alienate from the democracy more votes than it will win to its support. The outlook for republican success grows brighter and brighter. The democracy has maintained its record for unflinchingly doing the wrong thing at the wrong time.

Money Record of the Democracy.

From the Inter Ocean:
There are always a good many voters in the country who care very little about party. Their political convictions on the standard and abiding issues of the day are not based on the solid rock of established assurance. Four years ago the democracy got the advantage of this uncertain quantity. Now it is just the other way. Nor is this advantage confined to those who have been convinced by the logic of events that protection is better than free trade. It takes in also a very large class of citizens who are especially anxious about the money question. This anxiety also tends strongly in favor of the republican party, for the record of the democratic party presents a sharp and telling contrast in this respect, too, to the record of the republican party.

When the democracy came into power, under Jackson, our financial system was very unsatisfactory. We had one great central bank, located in Philadelphia. Jackson's opposition to it was a great element of his popularity. The people did not like it. He succeeded in destroying it, and there he stopped. Now when the republican party came into power it, too, found a very unsatisfactory financial system. Its faults were radically different from those of the system which confronted the democracy when it came into power, but it was bad enough to be utterly vicious. And the republican party destroyed it. Its absolute annihilation was brought about by the enactment of one of the shortest statutes ever passed by any legislative body. By simply imposing a tax of 10 per cent on the bills put in circulation by the state banks of issue, the system of money which had grown up during the period of democratic ascendancy in politics was entirely wiped out. Not a vestige of it was left. It was as if the ruins of the old national bank had been overgrown by weeds, briars and poison ivy and the pruning hook of republicanism cut them all away and made a bonfire of them. But, unlike the democracy under Jackson, the republicans under Lincoln were not content to merely tear down and destroy. Having gotten rid of the abominable money of the state bank system they gave the country, in its place, a double system, greenbacks and national bank notes. The democrats fought both with all the energy of desperation, but the new system was established, more or less securely, and proved an incalculable improvement upon the old system.

We are not now discussing the fitness of that system to the wants of the present time, nor saying that more or less radical changes may not be necessary to meet existing requirements, but this we do say, that one party demonstrated its incapacity to do more than destroy, while the other demonstrated its constructive capacity. To tear down a building no longer fit for use is only the preliminary step toward putting up a building suited to the site.

The American people are not likely to overlook the lesson of this contrast. The blunders of the democracy during Mr. Cleveland's present term have shown that in a general way the democratic party is not equal to the constructive responsibilities of the government; that it is the same aggregation of organized and rapacious incompetency now that it was during the period from Jackson to Lincoln.

PROF. C. V. R. Bellows of Mt. Pleasant, who is prominently mentioned in connection with the nomination for superintendent of public instruction on the state republican ticket, is well known in Van Buren County, where he was a resident for several years. He came to this county in 1864 and in that fall organized the graded school in Decatur, of which he remained in charge for three years. In the fall of 1867, he

was elected the first county superintendent of schools for Van Buren County, in which position he served but a short time, being appointed to the professorship of mathematics in the state normal in the fall of the same year. Mr. Bellows was one of the founders of the Van Buren County Republican, which was established in 1867 and did good work for the republican party until its consolidation with the NORTHERNER about a year and a half ago.

CONCERNING the candidates of the democracy, it is entirely unnecessary to make any comment. The platform is amply sufficient to condemn the party to defeat. As to Mr. Bryan, he is probably a nice young man, but his almost absolute inexperience in national affairs and his extreme youth, render him scarcely the man to occupy the presidential chair in these troublous times, aside from his objectionable views on economic questions. As to Mr. Sewall, he is probably an amiable and excellent gentleman. Had he been a vicious or dangerous citizen, it is quite probable some one would have heard of him before—and no one ever did, outside of the neighborhood in which he lives. We have not yet seen anything pretending to give his qualifications for the vice-presidency. Decidedly, the democratic-free-trade-anarchistic-populist nominees will not do.

Now that the congressional convention has been called, we desire to again call the attention of the district to Van Buren's candidate, Judge Benjamin F. Heckert. He is a thorough-going republican and has always been a fighter for republican supremacy; a good lawyer and a fine orator, he would be an ideal congressman and a leader in the house. The fact that Mr. Heckert saw long and honorable service in the union army and suffered the horrors of imprisonment in Libby, should add to his chances in the convention. Van Buren has never been honored with a congressman, although she always furnishes big republican majorities. Isn't it about time to recognize Van Buren republicans, especially when she presents a congressional candidate who would be an honor to his party and a credit to the district?

A few Democratic Bolters.

From the Baltimore Sun (dem.):
The only question that now presents itself is how to beat Bryan.

From the Lewiston (Me.) Sun (dem.):
The Sun cannot consistently support the platform and the nominee.

The Manchester (N. H.) Union (dem.) announces that it will not support the nominee on the Chicago platform.

From the Brooklyn Eagle (dem.):
There are many democrats who will support neither anarchy nor repudiation.

From the Baltimore News (dem.):
There is no duty so urgent to-day as the duty of seeing that the Chicago idea of democracy is buried as deep as possible next November.

From the Detroit Free Press (dem.):
For ourselves we have no hesitation in declaring that the Free Press will stand by its convictions, and will not endorse the Chicago platform or candidates.

From the Philadelphia Times (dem.):
The peril is a grave one, but united, patriotic citizens, in the heroic effort that the occasion demands, can easily win an overwhelming triumph over the combined foes of national honor.

From the Staats-Zeitung (owned by dem. postmaster of Chicago):
From now on the paths of the Staats-Zeitung and those democrats who terrorized the Chicago convention and gave it a populist trademark, will lead in opposite directions.

From the New York Sun (dem.):
The presidential candidate of every democrat who favors honest money and who still hopes to crush the enemies of the fundamental principles he was bred in, should be, without hesitation, evasion or sop to prejudice, William McKinley.

From the New York Times (dem.):
The mere fact of a candidate of this convention being named by two-thirds of the delegates, will not make his nomination more binding on democrats who loathe the principles he represents. That will be made plain when election day comes.

From the Chattanooga Times (dem.):
We will not stultify our record by advocating the election of the nominees. We are democratic; this ticket is anarchistic, socialistic, everything but democratic. We cannot join a movement in which Altgeld and Tillman and their sort are set up as apostles.

From the Richmond (Va.) Times (dem.):
Our worst fears have not only been realized, but new and horrible doctrines have been added to the Chicago platform, which cannot possibly bind a democrat who is unwilling to abandon the fundamental principles of the party.

From the St. Paul Globe (dem.):
No democrat is bound by the Chicago denial and repudiation of democracy. No democrat is bound by a convention whose irregularities and defiance of rule and precedent were, next and after its avowal of sectionalism and the gospel of hate, its own particular pride.

From the St. Louis Westlich Post (dem.):
The unexpected has happened; the Chicago convention of fools has placed upon its crazy platform, not the logical candidate for the presidency, Mr. Bland, but his pupil, young Bryan of Nebraska.

From the Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal (dem.):
Such foolhardy and bastard leadership, and such a radical revolution of the very life principles of democracy, will be disowned by those democrats whose subservience to party form is not dictated by their desire to share in the official spoils of party success.

From the New York Staats-Zeitung (dem.):

Circumstances have made William McKinley the man around whom all must rally who desire to defeat determinedly the candidate of the pseudo-democracy, William J. Bryan, who stands for fiat money under the guise of bimetallism; for nullification of lawfully contracted liabilities; for communism and lawlessness.

From the Lexington (Ky.) Herald (dem.):
The Herald is democratic; it is neither republican, a populist, a communist nor an anarchist. It cannot approve either the republican platform adopted at St. Louis or the populist and anarchist platform adopted at Chicago. It does not desire to be compelled to choose between the very respectable Major McKinley, and the eloquent young populist, Mr. Bryan.

From the Chicago Chronicle (dem.):
The Chicago convention has been controlled by and has spoken for the disappointed graybacks of the Confederate armies and their kindred, and the moonshining jazarons of the mountain districts of the South, and for the whooping desperados, silver monopolists and debt-shirkers of the far West, who never voted a democratic ticket and never intend to.

From the New York World (dem.):
Lanacy having dictated the platform, it was perhaps natural that hysteria should evolve the candidate. The nomination of the "boy orator" for the White House, at this juncture of the nation's affairs, domestic and foreign, when the ripest experience, the best tested wisdom, the broadest patriotism and the greatest executive ability are required, comes perilously near taking the one fatal step from the sublime.

Other democratic papers that have bolted the platform and the candidates are the New York Herald and Post, Boston Herald, Philadelphia Record, Charleston News, Nashville Banner, Louisville Times and Post, Hartford Times, New Haven Register, Wilmington Evening News, Richmond State, Petersburg Index, Charleston News and Courier, Galveston News, Dallas News, Louisville Anzeiger, Boston Globe, Hartford Telegram, New Haven News, Buffalo Courier and Democrat, Bridgeport Evening Farmer, Trenton True American, Trenton Times, Newark Sunday Call, Easton Express, Lewiston Sun and many smaller democratic organs. It is noticeable that most of the bolters advise the support of McKinley. Nearly 100 of the leading democratic organs in the cities of the South and North have joined the bolters, including every democratic paper in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Chicago, St. Paul, Detroit, Louisville and Richmond. Atlanta and New Orleans are the only important Southern cities whose papers have not yet bolted. Democratic editors are writing the best of republican campaign matter this year.

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